

Copenhagen August 12, 2009

Docket ID: CDC-2008-0001

Docket Title: Medical Examination of Aliens – Removal of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection from Definition of Communicable Disease of Public Health Significance

RIN: 0920-AA26

Hiv-Danmark is a national organisation for all people living with HIV (PLHIV), and those affected by HIV, living in Denmark, irrespective of method of infection, gender, sexuality or nationality.

Hiv-Danmark is engaged in safeguarding the needs of PLHIV, relatives and bereaved. Hiv-Danmark is an umbrella-organisation for individuals, self-help groups and other societies for PLHIV as well as user-groups attached to HIV wards at hospitals. You can join Hiv-Danmark as a PLHIV, relative or as a supporting member.

Hiv-Danmark support the proposed rule that would lift the immigration ban on visitors and immigrants living with HIV/AIDS, stop unfair mandatory HIV testing of immigrants, and remove references to HIV from the scope of examinations in its regulations. This change will restore the U.S. as a leader in the areas of human rights, equal treatment under law, and public health.

The change is needed because:

- There is no scientific or public health justification for HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay, and residence.
- Restrictions on entry, stay, and residence based on HIV status are discriminatory
- The enforcement of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay, and residence can, and does, violate other human rights.
- HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay, and residence can impede effective responses to HIV.

Sincerely,